

SOLDIERS' BONUS VETOED BY PRESIDENT HARDING

Has Returned the Bill to Congress Without His Approval—

Is in Sympathy With the Avowed Purpose of the Bill—
Could Not Sanction Bestowal of Such a Vast Sum of
Money Without Provision for Revenue to Meet Pay-
ments—Treasury Had Figured the Total at \$750,000,
000 for the First Four Years With a Final Cost in Excess
of \$4,000,000,000—House Probably Will Vote to Over-
ride Veto Today and Send the Bill to the Senate.

Washington, Sept. 19.—President Harding vetoed the soldiers' bonus bill today, informing congress in a written message that while he was in accord with the "avowed purpose" of the measure, he did not believe it was wise.

The executive's action was regarded generally in Washington as making impossible a bonus for the World war veterans. At least for some time to come, as it is to be expected that the president's veto would be sustained by the senate. A vote in the house was planned for tomorrow, with senate action to follow later in the week.

turned herewith takes cognizance of the inability of the government wisely to bestow, and says, in substance, "we do not have the cash, we do not believe a tax levy to meet the situation is wise, and you may have no credit for half its worth. This is no compensation, but rather a pledge: if the congress, while the executive branch is in session, will agree to the payments falling due in ever increasing amounts."

When the bill was under consideration in the house, it expressed the conviction that any grant of bonus was

Mr. Harding set forth a number of reasons for returning the bill to the house without his approval. These included:

- Failure of congress to provide a means of financing;
- The bill to establish the bonus would increase taxation.

That the legislation would wipe out everything thus far accomplished to reduce government expenditures wherever possible.

That a peace beatdown on the ex-service men by a pervasiveness of public funds, and suggested that the future of the war be inspired by compensation rather than conscientiousness of duty to flag and coun-

try. That to add one-sixth of the total sum of the public debt for distribution amounts less than \$500,000 of 10,000,000 people would undermine confidence on which the nation's credit was built and "establish the precedent of distributing public funds to the detriment of the public numbers affected make it seem politically appealing to do so."

That the \$10,000,000,000 of maturing public debt in the next six years would

That the adjusted service certificate provided with the bank and government loan provisions, was little less than a certified inability of the government to pay and invited "a practice of sacrificial" among the people, and that the bonus would not diminish the later obligation in the way of pensions to the veterans.

Asserting that this obligation would cost more billions than I venture to suggest, he said:

"I confess a regret that I must acknowledge of disappointment to the millions of suffering men, have the impression that it is as simple as the government to bestow billions in pensions as it was to expend billions in wars, and that the compensation proposed is pitifully small compensation proposed."

Only once did the president refer to the interest on the foreign debt out of the interest proponents of the bonus have considered. The government was facing a deficit of \$850,000,000 during the current fiscal year, and a larger deficit for the year succeeding. There is a heavy burden of interest collections on foreign indebtedness.

Text of President's Message.

President Harding's bonus veto message follows:

To the House of Representatives:

"I have returned without approval H. R. 10874, a bill to provide adjusted compensation for the veterans of the World War. The purpose of the bill is to pay bonuses to the veterans of the war."

"With the avowed purpose of relieving the public treasury of the burden of the war debt, Congress has taken the course better suited to further the welfare of our country. These expenditures are reserved so completely for war, and are to be paid in installments over the life of the republic in the half century to come, we must know that nations which have been victorious in war will emerge from the limits of oppression, wide as the public treasury is locked against them, and they will be able to meet all their necessities and prepared to meet all their obligations."

to give expression of a nation's gratitude to those who served in its defense and to those who have sacrificed their lives to its provisions I do not subscribe. The United States never will cease to be grateful, cannot and never will cease giving appreciation to those who have sacrificed for it.

"In legislating for what is called adjusted compensation congress failed, first of all, to provide the revenue from which the benefits are to be paid."

"Moreover, it establishes that very dangerous precedent of creating a treasury department stamp which is not a self revenue stamp."

sentinal obligations. Such a policy may be a better country for which to fight, but it is not a better country in which to live and attain the highest of human goals.

"WARREN G. HARDING

**LIQUOR AND COUNTERWEIT
STAMPS SEIZED NEAR CHESHIRE**

Cheshire, Conn., Sept. 19.—Five men were arrested and a large quantity of liquor and counterweight stamps seized here today by federal agents. The stamps, which are used in the manufacture of revenue stamps, were confiscated.

der, variously limited between four and five billions, upon the American people, not to discharge an obligation, but to reward a service which they could not bestow a bonus which the soldiers themselves, while serving in the World War, were denied.

"It is not to be denied that the nation has certain very binding obligations to the men who made real sacrifices in the World War. These

here today by Federal Prohibition Agents. He is being held in the county jail, where he has two deputies. The raid took place on a street in the Wallingford road east of town.

"The men arrested were John Parnell, who is the owner of the farm; Ralph Sangard of Southington; Nicholas H. Hildreth of Southington; and Joseph J. Gump of New York city; Giuseppe Spina, 59 E. 10th avenue, Tonkers; and Joseph Dimenza of New York city.

left the armies injured, disabled or disarmed, so that they could not restrain their passions and passions could not restrain their actions. These obligations are being gladly and generously met. Perhaps there are some instances of neglect, but these are all unintentional, and the government is anxious to correct them in their earliest possible correction.

In meeting this obligation there is no question of the government's being without bonds pending a hearing before United States Commissioner Ward T. Brown.

According to the raiding forces men were arrested while working in the outdoors. About 700 quarts of oil were seized. The men arrested have been found in addition to counterfeit revenue stamps. As said the government is anxious to send to New Haven in trucks carried

The estimates for the year to follow are approximately \$750,000, and the figures may need to be made up to \$1,000,000.

Though the peak in hospitalization may have passed, there is a growth in domination of the discharge by the county health organization and candidates for the board of health are supporting.

Returns from the contest in the county board of health, which is headed by the Hearst-for-governor movement, against the regular democratic organization for delegates favorable to the Hearst-for-governor movement, are not available at midnight, but in Alameda county where Patrick E. McCabe is

those to whom it indubitably owes compensation and care. Though undying gratitude is the meed of everyone who died, it is not to be taken for granted that material bestowal is an obligation to those who emerged from the great conflict not only physically but physically, mentally and spiritually repaired by their great experience. If an obligation were to be admitted, it would be to charge the government with compensation for the great loss.

for adequacy and stinginess wholly unbecom-
ing our republic. Such a bestowal
to be worth while, must be generous and
without apology. Clearly the bill re-